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DEF. DOC. #1961

The "TAMAMONO," Vol. 22, January 20, 1935.

Ex-War Minister ARAKI and  
St. Francis of Assisi.

Reproduced from the "KAMI-NO-KUNI (Kingdom of God)  
SHIMBUN."

(Translation)

The title of this article may at first be surprising to our readers. However, the other day, a German reporter put a question to General ARAKI, Sadao and asked: "Whom do you admire most outside the Japanese?" To this query, he is said to have replied: "I like Napoleon Bonaparte.... but, it is St. Francis of Assisi that I love better".

If this is true, we can see that in his heart the General has a spiritual realm deeper than wo ordinary people imagine.

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The foregoing paragraph was published in the "KAMI-NO-KUNI SHIMBUN" (The Kingdom of God Newspaper). I, the publisher of this paper, had long been wishing to read about St. Francis, therefore, I felt even a kind of curiosity when I got this article and read it with great interest. If this report is true at all, then, apart from the question as to what degree the General loves and approaches the Saint and is stirred by him, stirred by him,

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I can imagine a sweet aspect of the General, wherein he sympathizes with this Saint and cherishes, above this physical world, a noble spiritual life of another world that hold communion with unseen spirits. My love and esteem for the General have been increased all the more because of my discovery of the very fountainhead which brings forth this greatness of his. It is quite reassuring for Japan to have such an admirable man like our General Araki.

What sort of a man was St. Francis of Assisi, whom General ARAKI said he loved more than Napoleon? In this connection, I shall hereunder give an outline sketch of the life of this Saint, for to know this Saint will not only enable us to touch the very core of the character of this Saint, but also serve as a means to understand General Araki's mentality.

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Certificate of Source of Document

I, ARAKI, KinKo, hereby certify that the copy of a newspaper in Japanese attached, hereto entitled the "TENMON-MONO", consisting of 2 pages, was presented to me by the publisher at Tokyo in 1935 and that it has since been kept in my library.

Signed at Izumi, Komne-mura, Kitatama-gun,  
Tokyo Prefecture on this 20th day of January, 1947.

/s/ ARAKI, KinKo (seal)  
Signature

I, HASUOKA, Takaaki, associate counsel, International Military Tribunal for the Far East, hereby certify that the said person signed and affixed her seal in my presence.

Signed at the above-mentioned place  
On the above-mentioned date.

/s/  
Witness: HASUOKA, Takaaki (seal)  
Signature

荒木前院相士聖フランシス

「神の國新聞」から

この題目は蓋だ突飛な題目のやうに見受けられるともふだ。先般ド  
イツの一新聞記者が荒木良夫大將に向つて「日本人以外では誰が一番か  
好きか」と尋ねて答へて「ナガレオン。。。しかし一層深く考す  
る者はアランシスの學者アランシスである」と應へられたといふ。  
果して筆者もトセは、同大將の胸中に、普通吾人の想像より奥深き世  
界をみるこトを得るであらうトあるもふ。

して、大將が、この聖者と共鳴して、其胸中に、物質の此の世を離れて、目に見えない、靈の氣息に呼吸する別世界の尊き生活を抱藏して居る。ゆかしさを想見して、そこに大將の偉大さが産み出す產物があるのである。

かと、以前にまさる敬愛が加はつて、我等の荒木大將として、この人を持つことは、我が國日本のために意を強くするのであります。

この機會に於て荒木大將がナポレオンよりも一層深く愛するト云はれた聖者アッシジのフランシスとは如何なる人であるか、この聖者を知ることは、荒木大將の心境を窺ふ上すがたるのみならず、我等も亦その琴線に觸れるべく、そのあらましを左に紹介することに致しました。

文書ノ出所ニ關スル證明書

本書ニ添付セル日本語ニテ審カレタル四頁ヨリ成ルたまものト御スル新聞  
ハ一九三五年東京ニ於テ貰ラレ爾來自分ニ於テ藏置セル新聞ナルコトヲ  
證明ス

昭和二十二年一月二十日

於

東京都北多摩郡柏江村和泉

荒木錦子

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ固前ニ於テ爲サレタルモノナルコトヲ證明ス

同日於同所

立會人

鶴見

鶴見國際宣傳社

高川

明